AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

a revision identification register that allows modification of the revision identification register contents; and

a revision identification modification register, the revision identification modification register allowing modification of the revision identification register contents when indicated by the contents of the revision identification modification register.

2.   (Cancelled)

3.   (Currently Amended)   The apparatus of claim 2̶1, wherein the revision identification modification register includes a single bit, the state of the bit indicating whether the contents of the revision identification register are currently modifiable.

4.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 3, wherein a value of "1" in the revision identification modification register indicates that the revision identification register will accept any value written to the revision identification register.

5.   (Original)   The apparatus of claim 4, wherein a value of "0" in the revision identification modification register indicates that the revision identification register will ignore any writes to the revision identification register.

6.   (Currently Amended)   A method, comprising:

determining whether a current revision identification value stored in a revision identification register indicates a first device stepping;

ensuring that a revision identification modification register contains a value that indicates that the revision identification register will accept writes; and

replacing the current revision identification value with a revision identification value that indicates the first device stepping if the current revision identification value does not indicate the first device stepping.

7.   (Cancelled).

8.   (Currently Amended)   The method of claim ~~7~~6, further comprising:

placing a value in the revision identification modification register that indicates that the revision identification register will not accept writes, the placing a value in the revision identification modification register occurring following replacing the current revision identification value with a revision identification value that indicates the first device stepping.

9.   (Currently Amended)   A method, comprising:

executing a pre-operating system software agent, the pre-operating software agent to determine whether to modify a value stored in a revision identification register;

accessing a revision identification modification register;

modifying the value stored in the revision identification register if modification of the revision identification register is enabled according to contents of the revision identification modification register; and

loading an operating system.

10.   (Original)   The method of claim 9, wherein determining whether to modify the value stored in the revision identification register includes determining whether the value stored in the revision identification register indicates a first device stepping.

11.   (Original)   The method of claim 10, wherein modifying the value stored in the revision identification register includes replacing the value stored in the revision identification register with a value that indicates the first device stepping if the value stored in the revision identification register does not indicate the first device stepping.

12.   (Currently Amended)   A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a computer system, causes the computer system to perform a method comprising:

determining whether a current revision identification value stored in a revision identification register indicates a first device stepping;

ensuring that a revision identification modification register contains a value that indicates that the revision identification register will accept writes; and

replacing the current revision identification value with a revision identification value that indicates the first device stepping if the current revision identification value does not indicate the first device stepping.

13.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 12 having stored thereon additional instructions which, when executed, perform:

ensuring that a revision identification modification register contains a value that indicates that the revision identification register will accept writes.

14.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 13 having stored thereon additional instructions which, when executed, perform:

placing a value in the revision identification modification register that indicates that the revision identification register will not accept writes, the placing a value in the revision identification modification register occurring following replacing the current revision identification value with a revision identification value that indicates the first device stepping.

15.   (Currently Amended) A machine-readable medium having stored thereon instructions which, when executed by a computer system, causes the computer system to perform a method comprising:

executing a pre-operating system software agent, the pre-operating software agent to determine whether to modify a value stored in a revision identification register;

accessing a revision identification modification register;

modifying the value stored in the revision identification register if modification of the revision identification register is enabled according to contents of the revision identification modification register; and

loading an operating system.

16.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 15, wherein determining whether to modify the value stored in the revision identification register includes determining whether the value stored in the revision identification register indicates a first device stepping.

17.   (Original) The machine readable medium of claim 16, wherein modifying the value stored in the revision identification register includes replacing the value stored in the revision identification register with a value that indicates the first device stepping if the value stored in the revision identification register does not indicate the first device stepping.

18.   (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:
a processor; and
a system logic device couple to the processor, the system logic device including
a revision identification register that allows modification of the revision

identification register contents; and

a revision identification modification register, the revision identification modification register allowing modification of the revision identification register contents when indicated by the contents of the revision identification modification register.

19.   (Cancelled)

20.   (Currently Amended)   The system of claim ~~19~~18, wherein the revision identification modification register includes a single bit, the state of the bit indicating whether the contents of the revision identification register are currently modifiable.

21.   (Original)   The system of claim 20, wherein a value of "1" in the revision identification modification register indicates that the revision identification register will accept any value written to the revision identification register.

22.   (Original)   The system of claim 21, wherein a value of "0" in the revision identification modification register indicates that the revision identification register will ignore any writes to the revision identification register.